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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST COMMAND
Military Intelligence Section, General Staff

6 July 1950

SUBJECT : Chinese Communist Assistance to North Korea

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief of Staff ROK

1. The Chinese Communists have in Manchuria approximately 115,000 regular troops ~~(Refer to Tab 1)~~ (see Tab A). Additionally there has been reported from various sources a local Militia of 374,000. In North China, the Chinese Communists have about 176,000 regular troops including one tank group (2,000), one AA group (2,000), one mechanized artillery group (2,000), and one engineer group (2,000).

2. Without materially weakening their control of the China mainland, the Chinese Communists are believed capable of redeploying a considerable force of regular troops for the assistance of the North Koreans.

3. Rail transportation between North Korea and Manchuria could be augmented by waterlift (provided by the Soviets) to transport troops to the Dairen-Port Arthur area, thence by road to the Korean border. Movements into North Korea would be channelized by bridges over the Yalu River at Sinuiju, Sakchu, and south of Tunghua. Destruction of these bridges would temporarily frustrate Chinese Communist attempts to reenforce the North Koreans. ~~A photograph of the Sinuiju bridge is enclosed as Tab 2.~~ (shown on chart no. 1). Any discussion of the capacity of the Chinese Communist troops ~~capability~~ for movement must not overlook their ability to move great distances on foot in a very short time. Communist troops have been known to move 40 miles a day on a forced march. They have maintained this rate of march for several days.

4. Since 25 June, no positive information has been received to indicate the movement of regular Chinese Communists forces in the direction of Korea. A report from Shanghai received via Hongkong stated that the movement of troops from the Shanghai area had reached a scale sufficient to halt practically all commercial use of the railroad northward from Pukou (opposite Nanking). Rumors in the Hongkong press have indicated a major movement of troops from South China northward on the railroad to Hankou. Troops from West China are rumored to be moving down the Yangtze in the direction of Shanghai. All of these reports have been received since the beginning of hostilities in Korea, and must be regarded with suspicion in view of the still heavy concentration (confirmed) of troops in the Canton area.

5. The Central Government Council of the Peoples Republic of China passed a resolution calling the United States intervention in Korea and President Truman's action in Taiwan "acts of aggression against the

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Democratic Peoples of Korea and the Peoples Republic of China." The resolution added that the "Chinese Government and the people of China will continue the liberation of China, including Taiwan, and defeat the American imperialist aggressor." This does not indicate that the Chinese Communists will or will not intervene in Korea but rather prepares the way for such action as may be ordered by Moscow.

6. The employment of Chinese Communist troops can possibly be expected should Mao Tse Tung believe the situation favorable for decisive action. For fear of adverse psychological repercussions in areas under their control, world communism may not be willing to permit a fellow "Peoples Republic" to be defeated by an "imperialistic aggressor." By utilizing Chinese Communists troops, as covered, the Soviets could probably force the Korean war into a major conflict without precipitating a world conflict involving themselves. A Communist victory, won by Asiatic peoples, would give Communism in the Far East a psychological advantage difficult to overcome.

Stop

7. This is for your information.

2 Incls:
1. Map, Tab 1
2. Photograph, Tab 2

C. A. W.